Name:_____ Grade: ____

Date:_____ Subject: Social Studies

Homework: Our Natural Resource

Lesson 4

Our Natural Resources

The natural resources of a country are all those things provided by **nature** that are used by man for the betterment of the human race and the planet.



Our greatest natural resources in The Bahamas are the **climate** which is pleasantly warm for most of the year, the clear blue waters, and the clean sandy beaches. Other natural resources in The Bahamas are the soil, the rocks and minerals, the sun, the wind and rain, the plants, trees, and wildlife.



The islands possess no mineral deposits, such as coal, oil, gold, or iron ore; even freshwater is scarce in many places. Hence, manufacturing is very limited. Farming is still practiced only on a small scale, and the export of natural resources is limited. However, oil is re-exported from Grand Bahama where it is stored.

The dry islands of Long Island and Inagua are important in the manufacturing of **salt**, which is made from the sea by means of solar evaporation that is evaporation by the heat of the sun. This is exported to the U.S.A. where it is refined and used not only as table salt but also for melting the ice on the roads in winter and for industrial purposes.



Off the coast of Bimini, there are deposits of very **pure limestone** called **Aragonite.** This is exported to the U.S.A. where it is used in the making of cement.

Crawfish is an important export from the Bahamas, mostly to the U.S.A.

The **pine trees** of Grand Bahama, used for the making of paper are also a valuable export.

We must protect our natural resources so that **future generations** of Bahamians will benefit from them. This is called **sustainable** use. We must make sure that they are not used up, destroyed, or polluted. This is called **environmental conservation.**

Another way in which we can protect our environment and conserve our resources is by seeking alternative sources of energy. There is a school in Eleuthera called the **Island School** that uses a source of energy that is an alternative to **fossil fuel**. Sources of energy other than fossil fuel include water, wind, solar, and **biofuel**.

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1. What is the difference between sustainable use and environmental conservation? [4]

2. What are three uses of salt. [3]

3. What are **two** mineral deposits **not** found in The Bahamas? [2]

4. Other than climate name **one** other natural resource in The Bahamas. [1]

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